

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6617

BILL NUMBER: HB 1240

DATE PREPARED: Dec 11, 2000

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: County Learning Networks.

FISCAL ANALYST: Brian Tabor

PHONE NUMBER: 233-9456

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

STATE IMPACT	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
State Revenues			
State Expenditures		1,000,000	1,000,000
Net Increase (Decrease)		(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)

LOCAL IMPACT	CY 2001	CY 2002	CY 2003
Local Revenues		1,000,000	1,000,000
Local Expenditures			
Net Increase (Decrease)		1,000,000	1,000,000

Summary of Legislation: This bill creates the County Learning Network Fund to provide grants to counties to establish or improve County Learning Networks. It defines "County Learning Network" to mean an infrastructure that allows residents of a county to pursue certain educational and training opportunities. The bill provides that the Department of Commerce shall administer the Fund and establish criteria for awarding grants from the Fund. It also provides that a county must apply for a grant before April 1 of a calendar year and specifies requirements for an application.

The bill provides that the maximum grant that a county may receive from the Fund in a state fiscal year is \$100,000. It requires the Department of Commerce to determine before June 15 of each calendar year:

- (1) which counties will receive grants; and

(2) the amount of the grant each county will receive.

The bill also provides for the distribution of grants on July 1 of each calendar year and appropriates to the County Learning Network Fund \$1,000,000 for the FY 2002 and \$1,000,000 for the FY 2003.

Effective Date: Upon passage; July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill establishes the County Learning Network Fund and requires the Indiana Department of Commerce (IDOC) to administer the Fund. It appropriates \$1 M from the state General Fund to the County Learning Network Fund in FY 2002 and another \$1 M in FY 2003. The expenses of administering the Fund would be paid from the Fund itself.

The IDOC would incur additional expenses related to rule making, developing and processing grant applications, and other activities required by this proposal related to County Learning Networks. However, the Department should be able to absorb these costs given its current budget and resources. According to State Department of Personnel information, the Lieutenant Governor's Office had 35 vacant full-time positions as of December 2000.

Explanation of State Revenues: The Treasurer of State may invest money in the County Learning Network Fund not allocated for grants, and any interest accrued would be deposited into the Fund. In addition, money in the Fund does not revert to the state General Fund at the end of a fiscal year.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: Counties may apply to the Department for grants to fund County Learning Network projects. Such projects may include programs for personal development, continuing education, or other educational and training opportunities as specified in this bill. The maximum amount that one county may receive in a state fiscal year is \$100,000.

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Department of Commerce.

Local Agencies Affected: Counties receiving County Learning Network Fund grants.

Information Sources: Indiana State Department of Personnel manning tables.